

## MSHA's Accident Prevention Program Miner's Tip



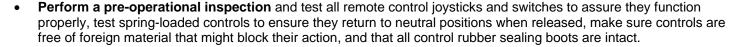
## "Remote Controlled Load Haul Dump Equipment"

Category: Haulage

Mine Type: Underground MNM

In a recent non-fatal accident, a remote controlled, diesel powered, Load Haul Dump (LHD) operator was pinned against the rib by the rear of the machine while performing mucking operations on a grade. The machine design permitted full machine articulation with the brakes applied. Once the parking brake was released, the machine could free-wheel and coast down a grade if the brakes were not applied by a separate joystick switch. To protect yourself and stay in control:

- Know all the remote control unit's operating functions and safety features and any differences with other remote control units used.
- Stand clear of the machine during changeover from manual to remote operation and during normal operation.



- If applicable to your LHD, apply the service brake on the remote control unit prior to releasing the parking brake to prevent the machine from coasting down a grade.
- If you identify a problem or safety concern pertaining to the remote control unit or the machine's operation, notify management. It may be possible to address concerns through a change in work practices or through design modification by the machine or remote control unit manufacturer. (See design recommendations in Smart Choices During Mining, "Remote Controlled LHD Design Safety Recommendations").
- Do not use defective equipment. Take it out of service for repair.

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